

CLAIM SUMMARY DOCUMENT

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A blood reservoir according to claim ~~2~~ 27, wherein said vented blood filtering chamber and said suctioned blood filtering chamber are formed by using a partition to separate a space encircled by the same filtering member into two.

4. (Currently Amended) A blood reservoir according to claim ~~2~~ 27, wherein said vented blood filtering chamber and said suctioned blood filtering chamber are formed by separate filtering members.

5. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 4, wherein at least one condition set in a vented blood filtering member provided as the filtering member forming said vented blood filtering chamber and at least one condition set in a suctioned blood filtering member provided as the filtering member forming said suctioned blood filtering chamber are different from each other.

6. (Currently Amended) A blood reservoir according to claim ~~2~~ 27, wherein said suctioned blood filtering member comprises nonwoven fabric.

7. (Currently Amended) A blood reservoir according to claim 2 27, wherein the effective area of said vented blood filtering member and the effective area of said suctioned blood filtering member are different from each other.

8. (Currently Amended) A blood reservoir according to claim 4 27, further comprising defoaming means in which an antifoaming agent is retained on at least one of said filtering member and a retaining member.

9. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 8, wherein said defoaming means comprises an antifoaming agent retained on at least one of the filtering member forming said vented blood filtering chamber and a retaining member placed on said vented blood filtering chamber, and an antifoaming agent retained on at least one of the filtering member forming said suctioned blood filtering chamber and a retaining member placed on said suctioned blood filtering chamber.

10. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 9, wherein the total amount of said antifoaming agent retained on at least one of the filtering member forming said vented blood filtering chamber and a retaining member placed on said vented blood filtering chamber, and the total amount of said antifoaming agent retained on at least one of the filtering member forming said suctioned blood filtering chamber and a retaining member placed on said suctioned blood filtering chamber are different from each other.

11. (Currently Amended) A blood reservoir according to claim 2 27, further comprising a vented blood lead-in tube for leading blood from said vented blood inlet into said vented blood filtering chamber, and a suctioned blood lead-in tube for leading blood from said suctioned blood inlet into said suctioned blood filtering chamber.

12. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 11, wherein said vented blood lead-in tube is arranged so as to extend downward relative to said suctioned blood lead-in tube.

13. (Currently Amended) A blood reservoir according to claim 4 27, wherein said housing has a venous blood inlet through which blood from a large vein flows in, and a venous blood filtering chamber communicating with said venous blood inlet and formed at least partially by said filtering member.

14. (Original) A blood reservoir comprising:

a housing having a vented blood inlet through which blood vented from the interior of a heart flows in, a suctioned blood inlet through which blood suctioned from the outside of the heart flows in, and a blood outlet;

a vented blood filtering unit provided in said housing, the vented blood filtering unit having a vented blood filtering member for filtering the vented blood flowing in through said vented blood inlet;

a suctioned blood filtering unit provided in said housing, the vented blood filtering unit having a suctioned blood filtering member for filtering the suctioned blood flowing in through said suctioned blood inlet; and

an antifoaming agent placed in said suctioned blood filtering unit, said antifoaming agent placed at a position which is capable of contacting the suctioned blood flowing in through said suctioned blood inlet,

wherein the vented blood flowing in through said vented blood inlet can pass through said vented blood filtering member without contacting said antifoaming agent and foreign substances filtered off from the suctioned blood.

15. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein at least one condition set in said vented blood filtering member and at least one condition set in said suctioned blood filtering member are different from each other.

16. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein said vented blood filtering member comprises a screen filter.

17. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein said suctioned blood filtering member comprises a depth filter.

18. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein said suctioned blood filtering member comprises nonwoven fabric.

19. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein the effective area of said vented blood filtering member and the effective area of said suctioned blood filtering member are different from each other.

20. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein said antifoaming agent is retained on at least one of a retaining member provided in said suctioned blood filtering unit and said suctioned blood filtering member.

21. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein said antifoaming agent is also provided below a maximum blood level.

22. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein said vented blood filtering unit has an antifoaming agent placed at a position above the maximum blood level such that the vented blood flowing in through said vented blood inlet does not contact the antifoaming agent in an ordinary situation.

23. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, further comprising a vented blood lead-in tube for leading blood from said vented blood inlet into said vented blood filtering chamber, and a suctioned blood lead-in tube for leading blood from said suctioned blood inlet into said suctioned blood filtering chamber.

24. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 23, wherein said vented blood lead-in tube is extended downward relative to said suctioned blood lead-in tube.

25. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 14, wherein said housing further has a venous blood inlet through which blood from a large vein flows in, and a venous blood filtering unit having a venous blood filtering member for filtering blood flowing through the venous blood inlet is provided in said housing.

26. (Original) A blood reservoir according to claim 25, wherein the same kind of filtering member as said venous blood filtering member is used as said vented blood filtering member.

27. (New) A blood reservoir comprising:

- a housing having a vented blood inlet through which blood vented from the interior of a heart flows in, a suctioned blood inlet through which blood suctioned from outside the heart flows in, and a blood outlet;
- a filtering unit provided in said housing, the filtering unit having a filtering member for filtering the blood flowing in;
- a vented blood filtering chamber communicating with said vented blood inlet and formed at least partially by said filtering member forming a vented blood filtering member; and a suctioned blood filtering chamber communicating with said suctioned blood inlet and formed at least partially by said filtering member forming a suctioned blood filtering member, wherein the vented blood flowing into said housing can pass through said filtering member without contacting foreign substances filtered off from the suctioned blood.

28. (New) A method of introducing blood into a blood reservoir that comprises a housing having a vented blood inlet, a suctioned blood inlet, a blood outlet, and a filtering unit for filtering blood flowing into the housing, the method comprising:

introducing blood vented from the interior of a heart into a vented blood filtering chamber in the housing by way of said vented blood inlet, said vented blood filtering chamber being formed at least partially by said filtering unit;

Introducing blood suctioned from outside the heart into a suctioned blood filtering chamber in the housing by way of said suctioned blood inlet, said suctioned blood filtering chamber being formed at least partially by said filtering unit;

the vented blood introduced into the vented blood filtering chamber by way of said vented blood inlet not including suctioned blood suctioned from outside the heart; and

filtering the vented blood and the suctioned blood by virtue of the vented blood and the suctioned blood passing through said filtering unit.